

What We've Accomplished Together



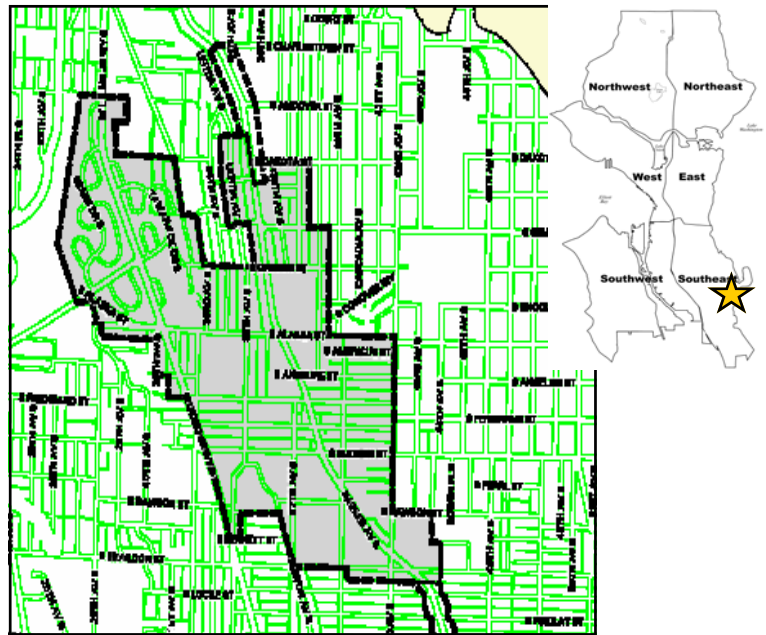
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor
Yvonne Sanchez, Dir., Dept. of Neighborhoods

Neighborhood: Columbia City
Residential Urban Village

Plan Adopted: 1999

Key Elements:

1. Strengthen Columbia City Core
2. Enhance the Rainier Corridor
3. Strengthen Residential Areas



Columbia City Neighborhood Plan Area
Southeast Sector

What happened in 2002

- **Parking Study** - The community began working with Seattle Department of Transportation on identifying Columbia City's biggest parking concerns and identifying solutions, as part of the Making the Parking System Work Program. The Parking Workgroup will be developing the final list of parking strategy recommendations in June, 2003. The strategies are being implemented.
- **38th Ave. S. and 37th Ave. S. prepped for curb and sidewalk work** - In fall, Seattle Department of Transportation staff completed designs for a sidewalk and curb on the east side of 38th Avenue S. between S. Alaska Street and S. Angeline Street, and for a curb and planting strip for the west side of 37th Avenue S. between S. Dawson Street and S. Hudson Street.
- **Mountain View Dr. Connections to MLK** - Paths in the Ferdinand St. Hill Climb were restored by Earth Corps. This hill climb is a much-used connection between the Mountain View community in the central part of the Cheasty Greenbelt down to Martin Luther King Jr. Way S. and over to Columbia City. The Mountain View Neighbors Association has also received a grant from the Washington Insurance Council for work to stem illegal dumping and improve pedestrian safety.
- **Hitt's Hill Park** - The Friends of Hitt's Hill received a \$9,955 Neighborhood Matching Fund Grant, matched with \$10,000 in community contributions for the first phase of reclaiming natural areas and removing invasive species in Hitt's Hill Park. Hitt's Hill is a 3.2-acre wooded hilltop on the southwest end of Columbia City that was purchased for a park in 2001. The Pro Parks Levy Opportunity Fund awarded \$100,000 to develop trails in Hitt's Hill Park, and both design and construction will be completed in 2003. The Friends of Hitt's Hill hold work parties in the Park every 3rd Saturday from 10 AM to 1 PM. For more information, <http://www.cityofseattle.net/parks/proparks/projects/hittshill.htm>.

What's Upcoming In 2003

- **Traffic Calming and Pedestrian improvements** - The Seattle Department of Transportation completed the new walkway and curb on 38th Avenue South in spring 2003, and began construction of the new sidewalk, curb and landscaping on 37th Ave S. in May. In addition, in summer 2003 two speed humps to slow traffic will be installed on 35th Avenue South between South Alaska Street and South Edmunds Street, and a curb bulb will be constructed at Rainier Ave S. and South Morgan Street to reduce the distance pedestrians must walk as they travel through this intersection. The total value of these improvements is \$123,000. For more information, visit <http://www.cityofseattle.net/transportation/2003majorconstructionlist.htm>
- **Genesee P-Patch** - Efforts began to transform the problematic vacant right of way of S. Genesee at 34th Avenue, which has been a magnet for illegal dumping. Department of Corrections community service crews cleared the area of blackberries and trash. The community continues to work on designing and building the garden with help from the Department of Neighborhoods Cultivating Communities Program.
- **Columbia City Branch Library** - The design of the \$3.5 million expansion of the Columbia Branch was completed in March 2003. Construction will start this year, and will be completed in 2004. The addition will more than double the size of the current library. For more information, visit <http://www.spl.org/neighborhoodlibs/columbia/expandingcolumbia.html>
- **Rainier Vista Redevelopment** - In fall 2002, after relocation of current residents, the Seattle Housing Authority began demolition of the housing at Rainier Vista, in preparation for redeveloping the site with a mixed income community with over 1,000 units. The new housing will include both rental and sale units. Housing construction will begin in spring 2003, and is scheduled for completion by fall 2007. For more information, visit <http://www.sea-pha.org/development/rainiervista/rainiervista.html>.

Who to Contact

At the City

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Department of Neighborhoods Plan website:
www.cityofseattle.net/neighborhoods/npi/

In the Neighborhood

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Neighborhood Plan Partners

Diana Vinh, SE District council, 290-8921

City Neighborhood Council Neighborhood Planning Committee

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Hitt's Hill Work Party

Neighborhood plan implementation is a program of the City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods in partnership with other City departments. DON works with 38 communities across Seattle to help meet the challenge of urban growth.